

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 SY-05 ISO-00 FBIE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 PRS-01 PA-01
USIA-06 MCT-01 USSS-00 TRSE-00 /061 R

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EUR/EE - MR. SEYMOUR
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R 212205Z JUL 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 170865

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PINS, PFOR, YO, US

SUBJECT: MURDER OF SLOBODA EDITOR

REF: STATE 143134

1. THE CHICAGO POLICE INVESTIGATION OF THE MURDER OF
DRAGISA KASIKOVICH HAS TEMPORARILY STALLED DUE TO THE
RELUCTANCE OF KASIKOVICH'S CLOSE RELATIVES AND FRIENDS
TO DISCUSS THE DECEASED'S PERSONAL AND BUSINESS ACTIVI-
TIES, ACCORDING TO THE CHIEF OF THE CHICAGO POLICE HOMICIDE
DIVISION WHOM THE DEPARTMENT CONTACTED JULY 19. EVIDENCE
ADDUCED SO FAR RAISES THE POSSIBILITY THAT KASIKOVICH'S
LINK WITH A PROSTITUTE OR HIS SURREPTITIOUS REAL ESTATE
DEALINGS, RATHER THAN HIS POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS, MAY
BE THE MOTIVATING FACTOR OF HIS MURDER. HOWEVER, THE
STONEWALLING OF THOSE INDIVIDUALS CLOSEST TO KASIKOVICH
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HAS INHIBITED THE INVESTIGATION AND NARROWED THE RANGE
OF POSSIBLE LEADS BEING PURSUED BY THE CHICAGO POLICE.

2. THE NEAR MARTYR STATUS CONFERRED UPON KASIKOVICH
SINCE HIS DEATH HAS RESULTED IN A POLITICAL WINDFALL
FOR SERBIAN NATIONALIST GROUPS. A DISCLOSURE THAT
KASIKOVICH DIED NOT IN THE CAUSE OF SERBIAN NATIONALISM

BUT RATHER IN A DOMESTIC SQUABBLE RESULTING FROM HIS

PERSONAL DEALINGS WOULD NEITHER ENHANCE KASIKOVICH'S
SYMBOLIC STATURE NOR REFLECT FAVORABLY ON THE GROUPS
WITH WHICH HE WAS ASSOCIATED. THE POLICE REGARD THESE
FACTORS AS THE POSSIBLE EXPLANATION OF THE COLLECTIVE
SILENCE OF KASIKOVICH'S FAMILY AND COLLEAGUES.

3. THE INVESTIGATION IS OUTSIDE THE PURVIEW OF THE FBI,
ALTHOUGH IT IS ATTENTIVELY MONITORING THE DIRECTION
AND SUCCESS OF LOCAL POLICE EFFORTS. THE CHICAGO
POLICE HAVE PROMISED TO KEEP US APPRAISED OF ALL FUTURE
DEVELOPMENTS. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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TAGS: PINS, PFOR, YO, US, (KASIKOVICH, DRAGISA)
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